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Graeme Dey MSP

Convener

Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform

Committee

The Scottish Parliament

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23 February 2017

Dear Graeme,

Further to my letter of 20 December 2016, I am writing to update you on the transfer of the management of Crown Estate assets in Scotland.

The Crown Estate Scotland (Interim Management) Order 2017, which establishes the interim body, was made by Her Majesty in Council on 15 February.

We received a revised draft of the Crown Estate Transfer Scheme 2017 SI from the UK Treasury in November 2016 and my officials have continued to work with UK Government officials on this draft SI which devolves management to Scotland, in order to seek to make improvements to the Scheme and ensure it is appropriate for Scotland. We have secured independent dispute resolution procedures and a number of technical improvements to the draft Transfer Scheme. I confirm that Scottish Ministers have agreed to the draft Transfer Scheme, subject to these revisions, and I understand that the UK Government intends to lay at Westminster shortly. They are still aiming for a transfer date of 1 April 2017.

I hope to provide a further update on the draft Transfer Scheme in due course.

Yours,

**ROSEANNA CUNNINGHAM**